GEN. JUBAL A. EARLY

TELLS HIS STORY

Of the Raid on Washington

IN JULY, 1864.

He Claims That Northern Writers Exaggerate.

To the Editor of THE REPUBLICANT That writers on the Federal Union side in the late war between the States should continue to magnify the num-bers in the confederate armies on all ocperhaps natural, as in this they but follow the example of their commanding gen-erals. They cannot conceive how it was possible that confederale leaders should have undertaken to confront the immense numbers of the United States armies with such siender forces as they in fact commanded, and it may be observed that the very highest eulogies on the prowess of our armies are to be found in these persistent exaggerations of our strength by our adversaries. It is not surprising, therefore, that a writer in The National Regulation, whose article has been appeality. REPUBLICAN, whose article has been specially brought to my notice with the request that 1 fur-nish my version of the facts, should very greatly exaggerate the strength of the force with which 1 made the advance on Washington in July, 1864. The wild state of alarm and consternation into which my advance threw the authorities civil and military, at the Federal Capital civil and military, at the Federal Capital, as well as the whole population of Wash-ington, as depicted by this writer and given in contemporaneous accounts, was such as to utterly disqualify any of them for forming any-thing like a correct estimate of my strength; but it is a little strange that at this late day one who has undertaken to publish in a journal printed at the seat of Government an account of my demon-stration in front of the defenses of Washington should not have deemed it proper to consult any authentic document from the Federal authorities as to the condition of things in those defenses

WHEN THAT DEMONSTRATION WAS MADE. In 1871 the report of General J. G. Barnard "On the Defenses of Washington" was published at the Government Printing Office, and in it he gives a full account of the condition of those defe of the armament and troops within them from the beginning of the war, including the period of my advance upon and presence in front of them. General Barnard was the engineer officer who had the principal control of the construction of those defenses, and was present in them when my advance was made; and it is to be presumed that he has given an accurate statement as to their condition and the forces within them at the time, though he seems to have so far shared the general panic as not to be able to form a correct estimate of the strength o the force threatening the Federal City. An accurate account of my advance upon and opera-tions in front of Washington is given in a publica-tion made by me in 1867 entitled "A Memoir o the Last Year of the War for Independence in the Confederate States of America," the operations in front of Washington being described on pages 56-62. Those operations are also the subject of two articles published by me in the Southern Magazine (Baltimore, Md.), June, 1871, and June, 1872, the first being in reply to some criticisms by John Esten Cooke and the last in reference to General Barnard's report. Those publications give fully and accurately the facts in regard to my operations in front of Washington, as well as my strength, and I could add nothing of interest to them. The and I could add nothing of interest to them. The writer in The REPUBLICAN begins his article by saying: "Toward the latter part of June, 1864, General Lee, finding that he was being steadily and surely hemmed in by the Union army, under General Grant, resorted to an expedient which, when tried two years earlier, had resulted in relieving him from a state of slegge. Farly was sent in through the Shepanadae, Valley Early was sent up through the Shenandoah Valley to threaten the National Capital." It is a little singular that it did not occur to this writer that if General Lee was being so steadily and surely hemmed in as he supposes he could have spared I to have carried across the Potomac

TO THE FRONT OF WASHINGTON. This writer further says: "As already stated, the enemy appeared in force in close proximity to the northern defenses of Washington upon the morning of July 11; but small bodies of the invaders but been observed as early as the morning of the day previous "—that is, on the morning of the 10th. My advance, a small body of cavalry, arrived for the first time in front of the defenses about noon of the 11th, and I followed this advance in person. arriving in sight of the defenses a little after noon. The main body of my command did not get up until some two or three hours later. If any of my men were observed in front of the defenses on the morning of the 10th it was only in the imagination of men whose vision was distorted by fright. On the morning of that day I moved from the Monocacy, the scene of the fight of the day before, and had then to march thirty-five miles to reach Washing ton. My cavalry advance reached Rockville o the afternoon of that day, and there encountered a body of United States Cavalry, which it drov away, encamping for the night at that place, som weive or tifteen miles from Washington. My mfantry encamped about four miles from Rockviii toward the Monocacy. General Barnard, in his report, says: "About eleven a. m., July 11, 1861. the signal officer at Fort Reno observed clouds o dust and army wagons moving from the direction of Rockville toward Blair's farm, on the Seventh street road. Notice was promptly given General acc'ook, and all available troops were concen-tiated in the rifle trenches on either aide of Fort be Russey." He also says: "A short time before noon Captain Berry, commanding his company Eighth Illinois Cavalry, sent a messenger to Gen scal McCook, notifying him that the enemy was moving with artiflery, cavairy, and infantry from Rockville in the direction of Silver Spring. About noon a strong line of the enemy's akirmisner advancing upon Fort Steven where General Met'ook was in command in pe son." (Pages 114-110.) This body of sairmisheraco and drove the enemy's skirminhers into the works The writer in The Republican says: "It had been pretty accurately ascertained that Early and Breckinginge had with them in the vicinity of at teast 30,000 veteran soldiers, and some estimated the number as high as 45,000. Opposed to them, Senerals McCook and Augur (the latter minuary governor of Washington) were unable to array over five thousand men of all arms, many of whom were little better than raw recruits, having no knowledge of warfare, and not a few of the remainder (belonging to the Veteran Reserve Corps to badly crippled by wounds or disease as to b unfitted for active service in the field." I WAS IN COMMAND OF THE WHOLE PORCE

and my command consisted of what was left of the Second Corps, Army of Northern Virginia, with two battalions of artillery, of three batteries each attached to it; Breckinridge's division of lisfantry of three small brigades, four small brigades of cav-alry, and a small baltation of artillery attached to Breckinridge's command. According to the fless returns of the Army of Northern Virginia of Apri 20, 1864, the latest before the commencement of the campaign from the Wilderness to James River, the Second Corps (Ewell's) had present for duty 1,374 officers and 15,705 enlisted men, making an aggregate of 17,070, as shown by a statement copied from the returns in the Archive Office at Washing ton by Colonel Walter H. Taylor, and given in a "Four Years With General Lee," page 176. Th corps had been engaged in the heaviest of the on's) had been captured. The other divis ons had suffered very heavy losses, and there had division of infantry, with which was serving a small part of a brigade of cavalry which had b There were also with him four small origades of cavairy and a battalion of artillery. The greater part of the cavalry had been with W. E. Jones in his defeat by Hunter at Piedmonn, in the Valley, and was very much discognanized and demoralized. None of it belonged to the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia, but it had been for the moss part on service in Wessers Virginia, and East Tannessee.

seven or eight hundred men in killed and wounded in some slight notions in the Valley be-fore crossing the Potennae and in the fight at the Monocacy. The force of infantry with which I seven or eight hundred men in killed and wounded in some slight actions in the Valley before grossing the Potomac and in the fight at the Monocacy. The force of infantry with which I moved on Washington did not, therefore, exceed sight thousand musicus, if it reached that number. In the three battalious of artillery I had nine batteries, neither of which had more than not that many Besides these there were one or two battalious of horse artillery with the cavalry the entire number of field pieces in all the artillery gun, constructed; the original crude structures.

ments and battallons at seventy-four, and in this I am credited with some commands that were not with me. IN GORDON'S DIVISION,

which was formed by taking two of the brigades from my division and uniting them with the rem-ment of Johnston's division, after the disaster of the division. In one of the brigades in his division there were the remnants of thirteen regi-ments, being all that was left of the Virginia regi-ments in Johnston's division. An average of 180 for those regiments would give 2,340 for the brigade; and yet Gordon's whole division numbered, on the 31st of August, 1884, only 2,544, as shown by the returns of that date. On the same "circumstantial evidence" he gives me thirty-six regiments of cavalry, for which he assumes one hundred men and officers as the average, making my cavalry force 3,000; yet the number of cavalry regiments with me, including the dismounted brigade and the one that was detached, did not exceed twentytwo. On the same kind of evidence he gives me sixty pieces of artillery, and in a note says that this number was actually counted in passing the South Mountain. As my forces passed through two gaps in the South Mountain, a part of the at-tillery accompanying each column, I should like to know who made the count. If it was a citizon, he was not unlikely to count a caisson as a piece of artillery. As General Barnard says that the name, rank, and regiment of the prisoner cap. name, rank, and regiment of the prisoners captured from my command between the 3d and 18th of July were carefully ascertained and recorded, and thus it was ascertained that I had ninety-nine regiments of infantry and thirty-six of cavalry, I defy the production of any such rec-ord. If such record exists, then it shows ut

least twenty-five more regiments of infautry and twelve of cavalry than I had. It is possible and twelve of cavairy than I had. It is possible that men claiming to be be a warm regiments may have been captured, as I afterward ascertained that there were a very large number of deserters from our army who had taken refuge in the mountains between the counties of Loudoun and Fauquier and the Valley, who claimed to belong to Mosby's command whenever questioned by any of our officers. I have thus noticed even

from whom he quotes, because that is the only one professing to be based on any data, the others being mere conjectural estimates, without any foundation to rest upon. It is a little singular that writers on the other side will persist in estimating our numbers upon the crude conjectures made during the war, when the returns showing our strength during the various campaigns are on file in the Archive Office, and have been for such a long period accessible to them. There was no reason why confederate officers should have made inaccurate returns to their government, and they have certainly not had the opportunity of altering them since the close of the war. General Barnard's statement of the forces available for the defense of Washington at the time of my advance is not based on conjecture or "circum-stantial evidence," but is derived from actual knowledge. He thus gives his statement of the forces within the defenses of Washington and in adjacent camps on the 10th of July, 1864: "The offective forces were 1,819 infantry, 1,834 artillery, and sixty-three cavalry north of the Potomac, and 4,064 infantry, 1,772 artillery, and fifty-one cavalry south thereof. There were tendes in Washing and Alexandria about 3,900 effectives (First and Second District of Columbia volunteers, Veteran Reserves,' and detachments), under Generals Wise well and Hough, doing duty as guards, &c., &c. and about 4,400 (six regiments) of 'Veteran Re serves.' At the artillery camp of instruction (Camp Harry) were five field batteries (627 men). A bri gade' of cavalry, consisting of the Second Massa-enusetts, Thirteenth and Sixteenth New York Regiments, numbering a little over 800 effectives, was costed in the neighborhood of Falls Church and annaudale, and commanded by the immented clonel C. R. Lowell (subsequently killed at Codar Creek), who handled it with great ability, resistin to the utmost Early's progress from Rockville and never hesitating to attack when it was desired to de-zerop the enemy's forces." (Page 107.) He ands in a note on the same page: "Besides the eavairy brigade of Colonel Lowell there was a nominal "cavalry division' of dismounted men, awaiting equipmen and organization, at Camp Stoneman, under Coronel W. Gamble (Eighth Illinois Cavairy), amount ing in all to about 1,200 effectives. Portions of the Eighth Illinois, armed and mounted, were cut during the 10th and 11th in the direc Rockville, Laurel, Bladensburg, and Fort Mahan to observe the enemy. The rest (dismounted were sent, with their cavalry arms, to General Mc-Cook for service in the lines." By "effectives." it must be understood, are meant only enlisted men for duty who bear arms, and the term does not include commissioned officers. The foregoing statement shows that there WERE WITHIN THE DEFENSES.

and in adjacent camps 20,530 effectives on the 19th of July, while a was on the march from Monocacy, tne authorities in Washington being fully ap-prized of my approach. Besides these troops there was a force of quartermester's men organized into a brigade by Quartermaster-General Meigs, over six thousand strong, and reported for duty on Sunday (the 19th). (See same report, pages 115-116.) That, with all these troops at hand, and with full knowledge of my advance, there should have been assembled only five thousand men of the character described by the writer in THE RE-PUBLICAN to meet that advance is a proposition too absurd to deserve serious consideration.
According to General Barnard's report, besides the
8,716 men on duty in the defenses north of the fighting from the Wildorness to James River, and Petomae on the 10th, the 4,600 veteran reserves on the 12th of May nearly one entire division were moved to the trenches on that day; the 8.0 (Monaton's land been captured. The other divis., catalry, under Lowel, were sent to the from the dove were moved to the trenches on that day; the \$50 cavalry, under Lowell, were sent to the front before day on the 11th, the 1,200 dismounted cavalry were n no accessions to the corps, except in the aiso sent to the front and to report to McCook on the first of a small brigade of my own division and the 10th and 11th. Quartermaster-General Moles reported with 2,000 men on the night of the 10th. When I was detached from General Lee's army the and Colonel Rice, with 2,806 convalescents and whole corps did not amount to 9,000 effectives. At Artillerymen, reported to the same officer on Monday, thus giving a force of 14,916 effectives for duty on the front against which my advance was made, to which should be added several com-mands the strength of which is not given, as the Second District of Columbia Volunteers, Captains

very rapid march from Lynchburg in pursuit of
Hunter, and then down the Valley and across the
Potomuc, had caused a considerable number of the
infantry to be left behind from inability to keep
up, as my men were very hadly shod. I had left
an officer with a small command at Winchester
TO COLLEGY THE STRAGGLEES.

side on my return to the Valley, after the advance
on Washington, I found that something over fifteen
handred stragglers had been collected at Winchester. Moreover, I had unstained a loss of some
saven or eight hundred men in killed and
wounded in some slight actions in the Valley bemense periphery to another, or under cover from

two battalions of horse artillery with the cavalry the entire number of field pieces in all the artillery not exceeding forty. Much the largest brigade of cavalry had been detached at Frederick on the expedition that threatened Baltimore and cut the railroads and telegraph between that city and Washington and Philadelphia Some idea of my strength at the time of the advance on Washington may be formed from the return for the Elst of August, 1864, given by Colonel Taylor in his book, page 178. This, I presume, is the earliest return on file in the Archive Office after I was detached, and it as sollows: tainable by the enemy's field-guns. With all these developments the lines certainly approximated to the maximum degree of strength which can be at tained from unrevetted earth-works. They would given, but both could not have exceeded 3,000, searcely what his dictum contemplated. When, in July, 1884, Early appeared before Washington all and some of those wounded in the campaign from the wilderness had returned to their regiments. and some of those wounded in the campaign from
the Wilderness had returned to their regiments.
General Barnard, in his report, page 121, has made
an estimate of my strength on what he calls "circumstantial evidence," by which he makes my
force amount to 22,420 in front of Washington. In
order to ascertain this number he assumes my
regiments of infantry at ninety-nine, and then assumes that each regiment numbered 180 men and
officers. I have before me a printed roster of our
armies, compiled at the Archive Office at Washington, which gives the number of my infantry regiments and battallous at seventy-four, and in this
here that as the object of revetments in fortificahere that as the object of revetments in fortifica tions is to render them impregnable against the fire of heavy artillery, their absence in this case did not detract from the strength of the Washing-ton defenses as against my force, as I had none but light field-gums with me. As against me, there-fore, these defenses may be said to have fully the 12th of May, to form a division for Gordon, reached the maximum degree of strength of which there were thirty regiments. Giving 180 to each carth-works are susceptible. With such works, regiment would make an aggregate of 5,400 for defended by 14,000 or 15,000 men, already on the front toreatened, and with the facilities for moving other troops with rapidity and under cover to any point that might be assailed, the proposition that I could have

CARRIED THEN BY AN ASSAULT Immediately on my arrival in their front, if my strength had been double what it was, would argue a degree of panic and demoralization on the part of the defenders of the "National Capital" not at all traceable to the fact of their being "raw troops" or "veteran reserves," disabled by wounds from active field duty. With such works to very from active field duty. With such works to pro-tect them even "hundred days' men," who knew how to load and fire a gun, ought to have been capable of rendering very efficient ser-vice; and I can conceive of no reason why "quartermaster's men," "teamsters," and "citizen volunteers" should not have been capable of resisting an assault made by an attacking force that had to move over abattls, across ditches, and over infantry parapets, when they were so effectually shielded by the works behind which they were ensconced, unless, indeed, they were as thoroughly demoralized as the intensely loyal ath-lete of whom the writer in THE REPUBLICAN speaks, and who excused himself first because he had lost his front teeth, and then had heart disease, and finally got off by taking medicine to make himself sick. All this preteins about "hundred days' men," "raw and inexperienced troops," &c., can but recall to our recollection the excuses made at the time for the defeat at first Manassas, or Bull Run, as our opponents called it, founded upon the fancied existence of Innumerable "marked bat-teries" and legions of "Black Horse Cavalry" which the invaders encountered—in imagination—in an army nearly all of which had not had the advantage of so much as the half of a "hundred days" service. As to the "veteran reserves," they were merely disabled from active service in by any of our officers. I have thus noticed espe- | the field by their wounds, and were, or ought to must be supposed to have been thoroughly trained. The idea, therefore, that I could have entered Washington by a vigorous assault on the works on my arrival is without any well-grounded foundaon. It took several bours to bring my infantry road, with the trains and artillery interspersed at intervals on the line of march for the purposes of protection, one division being in rear of the whole. Before even the first brigade of the leading division was brought into line I saw a cloud of dust from the direction of Washington, sh hat troops were moving up, and, a portion of them having FILED INTO THE TRENCHES.

a large body of skirmishers were sent to the front which drove back my cavalry skirmishers, about 200 strong, and burned a number of houses in front of the works. This affair is thus given by General Barnard: "Upon the arrival of dismounted mer of the second division cavalry corps, Army of the Potomac, 600 of them, under command of Major G. Potomae, sou of them, under command of Major G. Briggs, advanced at half-past one p. m., and drove the enemy's skirmishers back about a thousand yards, and thus restored in some degree confidence to the defanders." I witnessed this affair, and at that time the leading brigade of my command had not come up, but soon after came up, formed line, and sent forward skirmishers, who drove those of the enemy back to the cover of his works. It took some time to get the remainder of the leading division into line, and it was much later when the rest of my command was brought up. The whole command had then marched fully fifteen miles in very hot, dry weather and over exceedingly dusty roads, and was of course very much exhausted, many of the nen having fallen by the way from the heat and heer exhaustion. I may here remark, in reference to alleged statements by my men as to my strength and purposes, that it was a very poor con-federate soldier who would acknowledge to citizens of the enemy's country through which he was marching the weakness of the army to which he belonged or any doubt of the success of the expelition. I recollect very well an incident which occurred with myself on that morning. As I was riding in rear of my cavalry advance I got some distance ahead of my infantry column, and, seeng a shady grove by the roadside, with a neat house in it, I halted to rest under the shade of the trees while waiting for my infautry. The gendeman of the house came out to speak to which was fit for beeves, were taken by my orders me, and I soon found a sympathizer with our cause in him. Finding this, I asked him about ne character and strength of the works around Washington, and he said that they were not very strong, as they were nothing but "earth works." I then asked him about the strength of the troops naide of those works, and he stated that there was not a large force in them-not more, he thought, than 20,000 men. Knowing that earth-works in the hen state of the science of war were regarded as the atrongest that could be made, and that such works, defended by 20,000 men, would be impregnable as against my force, and not feering very much encouraged by

THE INFORMATION GIVEN ME.

I nevertheless replied to my informant that if that was all they had to oppose to us we would not able to executain mind that. I have no doubt that some of my men, even after they were made prisoners, did what is called some "very tall talking" about my strength and purposes, and doubtless such boasting their part contributed in no small degree to the state of bewilderment of my opponent in the subseof my efforts to baffle him for so long a period. Washington was indebted for its safety not alone to the strength of its defenses and the troops that were in them before my arrival, but two divisions characterizes his production. After describing an imaginary state of things existing on the after-

left, stretched his arm norshward, and the Capital was saved. General Wright with his gallant men arrived from the front of Petersburg and went to the front of Washington just in the nick of time—none too soon, but not a minute too late. Up the street they marched as only reterans can march, beyond the line of defences, and as the heads of the street they marched as only reterans can march, beyond the line of defences, and as the heads of the street they marched as only reterans can march, beyond the line of defences, and as the heads of by our the interest and a the hear of columns began to deploy into line of battle and hrow out ak irmishers choer after cheer went up from those who had for nearly two days and nights

formed a fceble but fortunately effectual barrier to the rebel advance. Early's seen heard the cheer-ing, and in the darkness fast alosing in upon the 12th of July felt its cause as the reinforcements

opened fire."

THIS IS QUITE CHAPPING,
and it is a pily that it is but "the baseless fabric of
avision," asit represents "the Silent Man" "smoking his eigar" in a very interesting posture. It may
also be observed that the perverse Lee, notwithstanding he was thus throttled, continued to
breathe with considerable vicer for come time. reathe with considerable vigor for some time hereafter. Here is what the "Silent Man" himself says in his report dated the 22d of July, 1865: "Immediately upon the enemy's ascertaining that General Hunter was retreating from Lynchburg by the way of the Kanawha River, thus laying the Shenandosh Valley open for raids into Maryland and Penssylvania, he returned [turned+] northand Pennsyivania, he returned (turned) north-ward and mored down that valley. As soon as this movement of the enemy was ascertained Gen-eral Hunter, who had reached the Kanawha Rivor, was directed to move his troops without delay, by river and railroad, to Harper's Perry: but owing to the difficulty of navigation, by reason of low water and breaks in the railroad, great delay was experienced in get-ting there. It became necessary, therefore, to find other troops to check this movement of the enemy. For this purpose the Sixth Corps was taken from the armies operating against Richmond, to which was added the Nineteenth Corps, then fortunately beginning to arrive in Hanspton Roads from the Gulf Department under orders Issued immediately after the ascertainment of the result of the Rec River Expedition." After describing the garrison in Baltimore and Washington and my movement scross the Potomic, he proceeds: "On the 6th the enemy occupied Hagerstown, moving a strong column toward Frederick City. General Wallace, with Ricketts' divison and his own command, the latter mostly new and undisciplined troops, pushed out from Baltimore with great promptness and met the enemy in force on the Monocacy, near the crossing of the railroad bridge. His force was not sufficient to insure success, but he fought the enemy nevertheless, and although it resulted in a enemy nevertheless, and although it resulted in a defeat to our arms, yet it detained the enemy, and thereby served to enable General Wright to reach Washington with two divisions of the Sixth Corps and the advance of the Nineteenth Corps before him." The italics in the last part of this quotation are mine, and are given to call attention to the statement that General Wright was enabled to reach Washington before I did. General Harmard, after stating the tracking of the last little of Hustario reaches the Chicago. the inability of Hunter to move up the Ohio and over the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad in time to oppose me, says; "Hence it became necessary to find other troops to oppose Early. One division (Rickett's) was, as has been seen, detached on the 5th of July from the lines before Petersburg and sent to Baltimore, where it arrived in time to bear the brunt of the battle at the Monocacy. THE OTHER TWO DIVISIONS.

did not receive their orders till the 9th, and did not reach Washington till two p. m. the lith, barely in time. A part of the Nineteenth Corps, just ar-rived at Fort Mouroe from Louisiana, were likewise dispatched to Washington and arrived at the same time." (Page 113.) He furthersays, on page 115: "Major-General H. G. Wright, United States Volunteers, commanding Sixth Corps, reported at three p. m. and his troops came up about four p. m. A force of about nine hundred of this battle-tried corps was placed on the skirmish line for the night." That is, the night of the lith. My troops did not all get up and into line before four o'clock, and my leading brigade was not in line before two o'clock; so that, in addition to the troops already in Wash ington before my arrival, I would have had to en counter the two divisions of the Sixth Corps and the part of the Nineteeuth Corps that had arrived if I had attempted to enter Washington. The proposition, therefore, that I could have successfully made the attempt at any time after my arrival is simply prepositorus. If I had been able to reach Washington sooner, Grant would have sent troom to its resease sooner, and house there was never any prospect of my capturing that city. It was not General Lee's orders or expectation that I should take Washington. His order was that I' should threaten that city; and when I suggested to him the probability of my being able to capture it he said that would be impossible. It was my own conception, that of undertaking the capture, ing the city very insufficiently defended. On the night of the 11th, being unwilling to surrender the idea of capturing the Federal Capital, I gave an order for the assault at dawn on the 12th; but a dispatch received during the night, stating the arrival of two corpfrom Grant's army, caused me to examin the works at the earliest dawn of the 12th, when found them so strongly manned as to preclude all hope of carrying them, and I therefore counter-manded the order for the assault. I remained in front of the works, however, during the 12th, with the purpose of retiring at night, and gave order accordingly. All my movements during the day were more demonstrations to amuse the enemy until the time for withdrawalarrived. Thad ascertained that Hunter had arrived at Harper's Ferry with his forces, which I knew to be much larger than my own, and my position was therefore exceedingly critical, as there was but one way for

ESCAPING ACROSS THE POTOMAC, and that was by a ford above Leesburg, in Londonn County, over which I did retire successfully. If the Federal commanders in Washington and Gen-eral Hunter had been possessed of the requisite enterprise and daring it would have been impossible for me to have escaped the capture of my en-tire command. All my movements were based on the presumed want of enterprise on the part of the enemy, and it seems that Federal commander cannot understand the audacity that caused their Capital to be threatened by so small a force The article of the writer in THE REPUBLICAN COL tains a number of statements on subjects of minor interest which are wholly without foundation in fact. Among them is the statement that Francis P. Blair, sr., was driven from his residence by my troops. Mr. Blair was not at home at the time, but was, as I was informed, absent with his family in Pennsylvania, leaving his house in charge of some woman who fied on our approach. If Mr. Blair had been at home his property and his privacy would have been respected, as was that of all citi zens who remained in their houses. When I found that his house was abandoned, and had been plundered of some valuables, I placed a guard over it with orders that no one should enter i without permission, and that the property should be protected. Most, if not all, the valuables the had been taken were recovered and placed in the charge of some neighbor for the purpose of bei restored to Mr. Blair on his return. His catt as were the cattle of other citizens, it being necessary that my troops ahould be supplied with provisions from the country. His house was not used for a hospital, and if any wounded men were found in it they were men who had been wounded in the affair which occurred late in the afternoon of the 13th between some troops sent out from the works and a portion of the tro on my front line, who would not be transported and found their way to the house after I retired If the writer is to be understood as intimating that Montgomery Blair's house was burned by my orders, then the statement is incorrect. I had placed a guard over that house also, and it was not burned by my orders, but was fired after my guard had been withdrawn. I have never been

WHO DID THE BURNING.

General Rodes, whose division occupied my front line and furnished the guard for the house, was of opinion that it was burned by some resident of the neighborhood, who took advantage of our pres-ence to commit the act. It is not impossible that quent campaign as to my strength and the success | the burning was by some of my men, but it was without my authority. It was my policy to pro-hibit everything like marauding on the part of my troops, and I was especially determined t prevent the destruction of the of the Blairs, for it was u of the Sixth Corps from Grant's army and a por-tion of the Ninsteenth Corps arrived before or that both the father and the son were opposed to simultaneously with my arrival in front of the works. When I speak hereof my arrival I mean, of course, the arrival of the main body of my force. As the writer in The Refusican has made a In fact, it was understood by us that Montgomer statement in regard to the strival of the Sixth Blair had lost casts with the extreme Radicals of Corps I will here give it in full, as illustrative of the party to which he was attached at that time. the entire want of knowledge of the facts which and it was not a great while before he retired from the Cabinet. There is a citizen of one of the counties of the Valley, who is still living, who soon of the 12th, when Weshington is represented | followed my command into Maryland, and who organized and demonstrated. None of it belonged in connection therewith on the front against to the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia, but it had been for the moss part on pervice in Western Virginia and East Tennessee.

San Francisco, Aug. 3.—Bishop I will a seeing in extreme danger, he says: "Meantain the same to me while I was in front of Washington with the request that I would permit him to burn which my advance was made before I got within reach of the works. The character of those works are conveniently provided in the cavalry of the Army of Northern with the request that I would permit him to burn while I was in front of Washington with the request that I would permit him to burn while I was in front of Washington with the request that I would permit him to burn with the request that I would per

It was not armed as cavalry proper, but had for its symmetric and the strong right hand, armamental most exclusively Endeld rifes. It was, from a few isolated works, covering bridges or comparing the fact, nothing more than mounted infantry. My was from the silent was devery rapid march from Lynchburg in pursuit of veloped a connected system of fortification by which with a statement of my reasons therefor. Judge Blair, however, as I understand, has never been able to believe that I did not have his hone burned, and he bases his conviction on a conversation I had with some gentlemen from Hagerstown, in which I stated that if the house had been burned by some of my men the act would have been fully justified by the burning in their own counties of many private residences by General Hunter, whose ruins they had seen when marching down the valley. This expression never to have been microstruct into an adsion seems to have been misconstrued into an ad mission that the act was my own. I have no dispo-sition to evade the responsibility for any of my acts during the war, and I certainly did have the fron works of Mr. Thaddeus Slevens burned in 1865, and the town of Chambersburg was burned by my orders in 1864 as an act of retaliation, after a refusal to comply with a demand upon the town for compensation for some burning that General Hunter had done within the limits of my command.

I ALSO LEVIED CONTRIBUTIONS on the towns of York, Pa., in 1863 and Frederick, Md., in 1861. All these acts were in accordance with the laws of war, and if I had ordered the burning of Blair's house I would not now seek to evade the responsibility. To give some idea of the odds I had against me when I was in front of Washington in July, 1864, I here give an abstract of the return of July, 1884, I here give an abstract of the return of General Sheridan's force in the valley in August, 1864. This is taken from the return in the Adjutant General's Office in Wash-ington, and is either for the 29th or list of August, as to which I am not informed. It is as follows: Return of Middle Military Di-vision, General P. H. Sheridan commanding: The General Torbert's cavalry, present for duty. 1,906
General Torbert's command, present for duty. 11,906
General Emory's command, present for duty. 12,906
General Torbert's cavalry, present for duty. 12,904

General Crook's command was that which Hunter had concentrated at Harper's Ferry when I was in front of Washington; General Wright's was the Sixth Corps, two-thirds of which (two divisiom) would amount to 7,970; General Emory's was the Nineteenth Corps, one-half of which would be over 6,000; so that there arrived in Washington at over 5,500; so that there arrived in washington at or before the time of my arrival in front of it at least 14,000 men from Grant's army, while a force of over 20,000 men was in my rear at Harper's Ferry. I may say here that I endeavored to get the returns of Sheridan's forces for September and October, when occurred the principal engagements between our forces, but was informed that there were no returns of his on file in the Adjutant-General's Office for either month. I, however, obtained an abstract of the returns for the 10th of November, which is as follows:

First Return for November, 1864. In the Field. General Crook, present for duty 18,005 General Wright, present for duty 12,336 General Emory, present for duty 9,701 General Torbert, present for duty 8,307

.......49,380 These statements are given to show the immense odds against which I had to contend, not only when I was in front of Washington, but in the ubsequent campaign in the Valley. General Sheridan in his report says that his loss in that campaign was in killed, 1,938; wounded, 11,893; missing, 3,121; total, 16,952. This, added to the return for November 10, would show a force of more than 53,000; but perhaps some 5,000 of the wounded may have returned to duty, leaving about 60,000 as his available force in the beginning of the campaign or during its progress. In reference to the absence of all returns of his force for September and October I will state that several years since I saw a statement in some newspaper that General Badeau haddaken about a cart-load of papers from the Adjutant-General's Office when he undertook to write the biography of General Grant, which had never been retu If that was the fact it may be that the missing re turns of Sheridan's forces were among them; and as Grant's biography has now been completed it is not improbable that all the missing documents may be returned. However that may be,

THERE IS STILL IN EXISTENCE, and accessible, documentary evidence enough to enable candid searchers for the truth to ascertain the relative strength of the opposing forces at all important periods. And when intelligent men of the North shall so far discard the passions and prejudices of the past as to be able to give a careful and dispassionate consideration to the facts it is not improbable that the scales will fall from the eyes of many of them, and they will discover that they have magnified into heroes of the highest order some whose statures will dwindle into very insignificant proportions before the light of truth. To such a test I am willing to submit the conduct of my advance upon and operations around Wash Ington and my subsequent campaign in the Val-ley with full confidence in the result. It may be, wever, that an appeal "to foreign nations and to the next ages" will be necessary before the truth of history is fully vindicated in regard to the operations of the war; and, be that as it may, I have no apprehension as to the final verdict

OTTAWA, ONT., Aug. 3 .- In reference to a dispatch from Washington about the improper use of United States mail-bags by the Canadian postal authorities, inquiry at the Post-Office De-partment elicits the following information: It appears that as more postal matter is sent from the states to Canada than in the opposite direction there is sometimes an accumulation of United States bags in the frontier offices in Canada. Some of these have been occasionally used for service in Canada, just as Canadian bags are used under similar circumstances in the States. The Domin ion postal authorities have no need nor desire to use United States bags, and moreover the sugges tion of a system of international mail-bags, dif-ferent from those in use, of which each governnent shall furnish its due proportion, was mad o the United States inspectors by the postal au-

The Buffalo Races.

BUFFALO, Aug. 3.-The following are the ummaries of to-day's events: 2:27 class, purse 1,500, divided—Troubador, 5, 1, 1, 1; Annie W., 1 3, 2; Argonaut, 4, 3, 2, 3; Forest Patcher, 2, 5, 5 Executor, 3, 4, 4, 5; Stella C., 6, distanced suboldt and Rolla, drawn, Time, 2:2434 1914, 2:224, 2:23) Pacing race, free for all, ourse \$2,000, divided—Big Billy, 2, 3, 1, 1, 1; Mattle Hunter, 3, 1, 3, 2, 2; Rowdy Boy, 4, 2, 2, 3, 3; Lucy 4. distanced; Little Brown Jug. 1. distar deepy Tom, drawn; Sorrel Dan, drawn; Hamilton, drawn. Time, 21334, 21834, 21754, 220

HARTFORD, CONN., Aug. 3.—Two men registered at the McDonough House, Middletown, last night as C. S. Thompson and Charles A. Buck. Early this morning Buck paid his bill and left. hort time after a strong odor of gas was notioming from Thompson's room, and on entering Thompson was found dead in bed and the ga urned on. There is a suspicion of foul play, J mall amount of money was found in Thompson'

pocket. The Boers Won't Be Pacified. LONDON, Aug. 3 .- A dispatch from Pre toria says: "Governor Sir Hercules Robin High Commissioner for South Africa, explai the provisions of the proposed convention with th soers to a large meeting of native chicfs. It is understood that they were very dissatisfied, and expressed their determination to fight the Boers i

eccasary." Coming to America

LONDON, Aug. 3.-The London corre pondent of the Edinburgh Scotsman says: "Di you Playfair, Deputy Speaker of the House of minons, has taken passage for the United States to sail on the 18th instant, but his departure at that ime depends on the prorogation of Parliament."

A Horrible Death. BALTIMORE, Aug. 3.-John M. Schuppe

aged twenty-three, while riding on a freight-car platform on the Philadelphia, Wilmington and altimore Road to-day, fell under the train, and his head was severed from the body. He was steal Assassination in Alabama

Marion, ALA., Aug. 3 .- King, ex-man shal of Marion, on entering his gate early this morning, had six shots fired at him. His body

was riddled with bullets. Death was instantant us. Six negroes have been arrested. Death of a Vicginia Minister.

RAWLEY SPRINGS, VA., Aug. 3.—Rev William G. Campbell, an aged and extensively

terian preachers in Virginia.

SAN FRANCISCO, Aug. 3.—Bishop E. O. Haven died at Salem. Oregon, yesterday after noon. The immediate cause of his death was

YESTERDAY'S BULLETINS. Bise of Temperature in the After noon Is Very Slight.

EXECUTIVE MASSION, Aug. 3, 8:30 a. m.— The President slept tranquilly the greater part of the night. This morning his temperature is normal and his general condition satisfactory. Au-other day of favorable progress is anticipated. At present his pulse is 96; temperature, 98.4°; respira-

EXECUTIVE MASSION, 12:30 p. m.—The President continues to progress steadily toward convales-cence. He has taken to-day an increased propor-tion of solid food. His wound is doing well, and his general condition is better than yesterday. At present his pulse is 100, temperature 28.1°, respira-

EXECUTIVE MASSION, 7 p. m .- The President has passed a very satisfactory day. The wound con-inues to do well; he takes an adequate quantity of nourishment, and appears in all respects better than at any time since he was injured. The rise of temperature this afternoon is slight. At present his pulse is 102; temperature, 99.4°; respiration, 19. UNOPPICIAL BULLETINS.

Executive Massion, II p. m.—The progress of the President toward recovery to-day has been marked and satisfactory. He has taken rather more than the usual amount of nourishment, in-cluding beefsteak, milk, beef-extract, toast satu-rated with beef juice, and a little coffee. His strength is daily increasing, and he is able already to do more in the way of turning himself in hed and helping others to raise his body than the surgeons hink it prudent to allow. Since last night at this hour he has had between eleven and twelve hours of quiet, natural sleep, and the hypodermic injec-tion of one-eighth of a grain of sulphate of morphia, which is usually given him after the even-ing examination, was reduced to-night to one-sixteenth of a grain, which was found to be amply sufficient. The afternoon febrile rise was to-day trilling, and subsided before nine o'clock. Since that hour the patient has slept most of the time, and is asleep now, with every prospect of having a quiet, refreshing night's ress. In the opinion of the surgeons he is better and stronger to-day than at any time heretofore. Dr. returned to Philadelphia this morning, and Dr. Hamilton arrived from New York at half-past ten p. m. In view, however, of the President's extremely favorable condition it was not thought necessary for Dr. Hamilton to go to the Executive Mansion to-night.

GUITEAU'S REQUEST FOR BAIL. The District Attorney Will Not Make It Public at Present.

The fact that Guiteau has placed in the hands of the District Attorney a petition requesting to be released ou bail is not considered of
much importance in legal circles. When applied
to for a copy of the document yesterday District
Attorney Corkhill said: "It is not yet the proper
time to make it public; besides, there is nothing
new in it. It will be filed with the court eventusalar, then if any one desires to publish it, there ally; then, if any one desires to publish it, there will be no objection." All requests at the jail to see the prisoner are still refused, and the guard continues to be maintained, which would appear to indicate that the authorities apprehend that there is still danger of an attempt being made to capture the prisoner. Jutimations have been made that there are organizations in this city, Baltimore, and Philadelphia whose members are ready to take the law into their own hands if they could get hold of Guiteau. Avenged His Daughter's Dishonor.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., Aug. 3.—Intelligence was received yesterday of a tragic sflair which occurred in Claiborne Parish, La., not far from the State line. The facts are as follows: Captain James H. Walker a prominent planter, has a daughter who was betrothed to a young man named James Doyle. The Walkers and Doyles live only a short distance apart, and the engagement of only a short distance spart, and the engagement of only a short distance apart, and the engagement of Miss Walker and young Doyle was favorably regarded by both families. The marriage, however, was postponed from time to time by the young man, and at last he suddenly disappeared, going to Texas, when it transpired that he had seduced the young lady and left her to bear the disgrace as best she could. Her father swore he would kill Doyle on sight. Last Thursday the young man returned from Texas, evidently believing that the storm had blown over. He had not been home more than two hours when Cantain Walker appeared, armed with a shot gun. Doyle was sitting on the porch, and, springing to bis feet, started to run, when Walker said: "You black hearted scoundrel, now I've got you." At the same time he discharged his gun at Doyle, the contents entering his breast. The young man fell on the floor, dying almost instantly.

Walker then gave himself up to the authorities.

There was a conference held at the Post Office Department yesterday, at which were pres ent the Postmaster-General, Assistant Postmi General Hazen, the Sixth Additor, the objet of the finance division of the Post-Office Department and the objet of the book-keepers' division of the Sixth Auditor's office. The object of the conference was to perfect a system for collecting the revenu-of the Department which shall be simp and effectual and do away with the system of drafts now in vogue. It is proposed to adopt a system which will compel postmusters to deposit all funds without waiting for drafts. This will greatly facilitate the work of collection, but at the sam time will materially increase the work in the finance division of the Third Assistant Postmaster General's office.

Crime in Chicago.

CHICAGO, Aug. 3.-Officer O'Brien, Vho was shot by Canill in the desperate affray of Sun-day night, died this afternoon. He had been on the force several years, and had a fine record. The feeling against his murderer is so strong that the chief of police thought it best last night to remove Cabill to the armory for safe keeping. O'Mara, who was shot by the negro Mulligan

still lives, with a ball in his head. Young Gunnison, who was stabbed by a negro named Granger on the same night, lies at the hos pital in a critical condition.

A Significant Call.

ROME, Aug. 3.—The Capitalie says: "The dea of inviting all ex-galley slaves and near relations of those who lost their lives in prison or o the scaffold through the influence of the Pope of the King to participate in a meeting to be held or the 7th instant in favor of the abolition of land guarantees is much approved of by all the Lib erals, several of whom have informed the com-mittee of organization that they will attend the meeting, which promises to be exceptionally inportant and of very great significance.'

A Big Fire in Chiengo.

CHICAGO, Aug. 3 .- A fire this afternoon destroyed Joseph Lauer's planing mill, corner of Halstend and Orchard streets, together with half a block of small wooden buildings near by. A serious conflagration seemed imminent, and the was a panic among the residents in that neighborhood, but the fire department soon succeeded in controlling the flames. Lauer's loss on stock is \$11,000 and A. Vogel's loss on mill building \$1,000 The loss on the sheds and shantles is about \$22,000 There is little, if any, insurance.

Rhode Island Baces.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Aug. 3.—At the Narraganeett Park this afternoon the race for the hils class was won by Hambletonian Knox, Dalsy Fhorne second, Lady Wilmarth third. Time, 231 £35}4, £34, 235, 235}4, £35}4. The 2:29 class race was won by Little Gem in three straight heats, George M. second, Little Maid third. Time, 2:294, 2:123

Exercising the Mare. Buffalo, N. Y., Aug. 3.-The famous

nare Maud S. was exercised this morning, but no ficial time was taken. Some claim that she did a mile in 211, while others timed her in 2113 No record was taken at the different points on the track. The great race against time will take pla

Gambetta's Plan. Pauls, Aug. 3.—Le Temps says: "The ob

ject of the Gambetta committee for furthering the Republican cause during the elections is not to approve or reject the Republican candidates, by propaganda."

Found Dead in Bed.

RALEIGH, N. C., Aug. 3.—Mrs. George W. Thompson, a highly esteemed lady of this city, was found dead in her bed this morning by her husband. She had retired in apparent goe health. Her death resulted from heart disease.

At Boston-Bostons, 9; Worcesters, 5. At New York-Metropolitans, 5; Albanys, 4. At Fravidence, R. I.—Troys, 5; Providence, 0.

A GOOD APPETITE

AND A CHEERFUL DISPOSITION

Enable the President to Pass Another Good Day-Preparations Being Made for a Voyage on the Tallapoosa - An Interview with Dr. Bliss.

Throughout the day yesterday the visitors at the White House were few and far between. The favorable character of the morning bulletin had apparently satisfied every one that the President is rapidly progressing to convalescence. Sec-retaries Blaine and Windom, with their wives, made the usual visit to the White House early in the evening. Some time afterward the Postmaster-General called, but upon seeing a copy of the seven o'clock bulletin, and noting the favorable condition of the President, he left without waiting to see any of the physicians. Dr. Agnew left for Fbliadelphia at half-past nine yesterday morning, it having been definitely understood that Dr. Hamilton would arrive from New York in the evening. Many queer communications continue to be received by Private Secretary Brown, some giving directions as to how the

PRESIDENT'S CASE SHOULD BE THEATED, others profering new remedies. Among these last was a letter received from England to-day in which the writer asserts with all seriousness that it is perfectly practicable to dissolve the ball now lodged in the body of the President, so that no further danger may be apprehended from this source. To do this he says it is only necessary to administer to the distinguished patient a powder male of the innerskin of a chicken's gizzard. Private Secretary Brown said last night that while it was generally conceded that it would be highly advantageous to the President that he should be removed from the White House at the earliest moment that his condition will warrant, nothing definite as to the particular place he should be removed to had yet been decided upon. Much would depend upon the President's own wishes in the matter, as any change that he was not thoroughly satisfied with could not but result injuriously. His physicians recognize the fact that THE MIASMATIC INFLUENCES

in the vicinity of the White House will be most powerful during the latter half of this and next month, and they will act in the matter of the Prestdent's removal at the earliest moment consistent with prudence. The points now most generally discussed are the cottage at the Soldiers' Home, Mentor, and the trip down Chesapeake Bay on the to the various navy-yards. This is a mistake, as he will go on the steamer Dispatch. The pilot-house of the Tallapoosa has been removed, and a New York firm has been engaged to furnish a swinging berth, which will be fitted in a large state-room on the hurricane dock about amidships. In the event of it being decided that the President shall take a sea voyage he will occupy this state-room, and many other changes will be made for his comfort and convenience. The crew of the Tallapoosa are aboard the Speedwell, ready to go aboard as soon as the vessel is ready for sea. Commander Kellogg will command her, with Lieutenant Merry as executive officer. At ten o'clock last night the President was sleeping quietly, baying taken only one sixteenth of a grain of morphia. It is the purpose of the attend-ing physicians to gradually reduce the quantity of morphia hypodermically injected until it is dispensed with entirely. The general verdict of the attendants and physicians is that the President passed the best day yesterday of any since he was

DR. BLISS SAID to a representative of THE REPUBLICAN last night that he regarded the condition of the President as eminently satisfactory; that while he had lost considerable flesh (about sixty pounds, he thought,) be was now slowly gaining strength. All along it had been the chief care of the physiciaus to repair the constant waste upon the President's system, and to this end they had endeavored to give him all the nourishment that his stomach would as-similate. At times his condition had been such as to render it impossible to do this, but this was to be expected in a case of such magnitude; that the location of the ball by the induction balance had been a gratifying verification of his first diagnosts of the case. There had also been the further cor-roboration of the discolored spot on the front of the abdomen. When this spot

FIRST MADE ITS APPEARANCE about five days after the shooting it had been arefully noted by the physicians, and although he fact was not given out authoritatively in the bulletins they felt assured that it marked the exact location of the ball. The discoloration of the kin had graduatly faded away, and was not observable now or when the first test with the nduction balance was made. At times within he past day or so at the dressing of the wound he attending physicians had manipulated that portion of the abdomen and could feel distinct the hard lump made by the bullet. The Presi dent, who knew nothing of the object of them manipulations, also feit this lump, and said to the physicians while they were engaged in it that he could feel a hard

under the pressure of their fingers.

The question was asked by THE REPUBLICAN;
What was the doctor's opinion of the theory that the exact location of the ball could be determined

by the aid of
A BYPODERMIC NEEDLE?
Dr. Bliss replied that such treatment would, in his
opinion, be extremely bazardous; that in sounding for the ball the peritoneal cavity might be punctured and dangerous results follow; that the attending physicians did not at present consider the extraction of the ball of the first consequence, and, unless there were evidences of it mak-ing its way downward into the polvio cavity, it was good practice to let it alone; that his associates and himself had realized from the first that a grave responsibility was im-posed upon them in treating the President's case,

and a most careful record had been kept of his

condition every hour since he was shot. When this shall be given to the public, it will, of course,

be subjected to searching criticism, and himsel

and his associates were prepared to stand by it, DR. HAMILTON ARRIVED in the city last evening by the 10:10 train from New York. He was met at the Baltimore and Po tomac depot by Dr. Bliss. The appearance of Dr. Bliss in the waiting-room was the signal for a general rush of inquirers after the latest from the President's bedside. After answering a dozen or two questions the Dector moved out on the platform to escape the crowd. When the train rolled in and Dr. Hamilton stepped from the car, a dozen well-known gentlemen shook hands with him and expressed their pleasure at his arrival. District Attorney Corkhill, who was just about leaving for Cape May, stepped for-ward and said; "Dr. Hamilton, I am glad to see you back, and trust you will soon have your patient all right." Dr. Hamilton smiled pleasantly, and replied: "All right, Colonel; you take care of your patient and I will take care of mine." The Disrict Attorney assured the Doctor that his patient The gong struck for an outgoing train, and the two doctors threaded their way through the throng to the carriage in walting, and were driven rapidly to the residence of the Attorney General.

Birthday Entertainment. Master George Brown gave an enter-

alument last evening at the residence of his ather, Mr. S. P. Brown, Mount Pleasant, in celebration of the anniversary of his eighth birthday. Most of the young people of the village were present and a number from the city. The first part of he evening was engaged by playing croquet and the evening was engaged by paying coaches and other games, which gave place later in the evening to dancing, after which the guests particle of a sumptuous supper. At the close of the evening Myss five thenderson entertained the guests by reciting several of her choice selections in her usual brilliant and artistic manner. After the enjoyments of the evening the little tired flock tailed their host good night and went to their respective homes.

The Mississippi Bourbons. JACKSON, MISS., Aug. 3.—The Democratic

tate convention met at moon to-day, every county poing fully represented. After some discussion a permanent organization was effected. No proxima were admitted. The committee on credentials had not reported up to nine p. m. Four counties have contesting delegates. Governor Stone and Major Ethel Barksdale covernor stone and Major Ether Barksdale are the most prominent candidates for the governorship, representing respectively the conservative and extreme elements. Much bitter feeling is manifested. Burksdale's friends are comfilerat, though it is thought Stone's chances are the best. The nomination of Barksdale, or one of his faction, imports Someton Lamar's re-election, wallo Stone's specess assures his return.